#### Office of Undergraduate Studies

#### **UPPERCLASS** NEWSLETTER

#### 357 SEARS BUILDING

10900 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, OH 44106-7028 Phone: 216.368.2928 Fax: 216.368.4718 ugstudies@case.edu case.edu/ugstudies

#### LINKS OF INTEREST

- Academic Policies and Procedures
- Experiential Learning
- Forms
- Honors, Fellowships, and Awards
- Pre-Professional Advising
- Programs and Requirements

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Career Center
- Course Evaluations
- The Daily
- Educational Services for Students
- Financial Aid
- General Bulletin
- ♦ Housing
- The Observer
- Residence Life
- Student Affairs
- Student Financial Services
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- University Health Service
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- Attend an "All About Finding Research Opportunities" Session
- Enroll in UNIV 100: ESSential Academic Strategies

#### Important Upcoming Dates (Click the date to add it to your calendar)

- March 12: Mid-semester Grades Due
- March 12-16: Spring Break
- March 23: Drop/Add Deadline for Second-half Courses
- March 30: Deadline for Class Withdrawal and Pass/No Pass
- March 30: Deadline to Resolve Incomplete Grades from Fall 2017
- April 1: May 2018 Commencement Registration Deadline
- April 1: Deadline for Summer Off-campus Study Requests
- **April 2: Course Registration for Summer Begins**
- April 9: Fall 2018 Course Registration Begins

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#### Important Information for Spring Graduates

Planning to graduate in May? Double check your Academic Requirements Report to make sure everything is "Satisfied." If you're repeating a class for which you already have credit, make sure you will have earned enough hours to graduate. When you repeat a class, the hours for both courses appear in your total hours until course repeats are processed after grades are posted. Once the repeat process is run and the first iteration of the course is no longer bearing credit, your total hours will decrease. Make sure you have sufficient hours once that credit is removed.

Are you considering a class withdrawal or the Pass/No Pass option? If so, do not withdraw or select P/NP for a course that is required without first checking with your dean to make sure you have another course that can be used as a substitution.

Students who haven't applied for graduation must come to the Office of Undergraduate Studies to complete a paper application. Even if your AR report is not all "Satisfied", you should apply for graduation. Once your application is in, we can work on making sure all requirements are met.

Reasons your AR report may not be all "Satisfied" include:

- 1. Missing writing portfolio. Information on submitting your portfolio can be found here.
- 2. You have a class exception or substitution and you are currently in that class. The exception will not appear in SIS until you have a final grade in the class. If you have not already done so, you must submit an Advisement Report Correction form for a substitution.

If you no longer plan to graduate in May, contact Undergraduate Studies so your SIS record can be updated to ensure you can register for the summer and fall 2018 semesters.

#### Latin Honors for 2017-2018

Latin honors are awarded to the top 35 percent of the graduating class. These cutoffs are applied to degrees awarded in 2018 (January, May, and August):

- Top 10 percent: summa cum laude = 3.915 4.000
- Next 10 percent: magna cum laude = 3.806 3.914
- Next 15 percent: cum laude = 3.645 3.805

To be eligible for Latin honors, candidates must have:

- 1. Earned a minimum of 54 credit hours of evaluative grades (A, B, C, D) in residence at the University.
- 2. Attained the required percentile ranking on the basis of all work for which grades are averaged at the University.

#### Seniors: Is Your Writing Portfolio Approved? Pick up Your Free T-shirt

As a thank-you for submitting your SAGES writing portfolio, the Office of Undergraduate Studies would like to give you a long-sleeved, graduation T-shirt! Just stop by our office, let us know your portfolio is approved (by showing us the approval email from the SAGES Portfolio Coordinator) and you will receive your shirt. Available in sizes S-3XL, while supplies last.





**FRONT** 

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#### Commencement Preparation and Registration

Students are eligible to participate in Commencement activities if they have completed all degree requirements during the spring semester or the immediately preceding fall semester or summer session, or have an appropriate plan to complete their degree requirements in the upcoming summer session or fall semester. If you are planning to participate in Commencement but will not graduate until fall 2018, you must contact <u>your dean</u> to be added to the list of Commencement participants.

Commencement Registration, March 1 – April 1: You must <u>register online</u> if you plan to participate in Commencement ceremonies. Commencement registration is a separate process from the graduation application. By registering for Commencement you will receive tickets for University Convocation and the Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony. Both events require tickets.

**Commencement Rehearsal, May 19:** Commencement rehearsal is in Adelbert Gym at 10 a.m. All graduates participating in Commencement must attend.

Commencement, May 20: Commencement comprises two events: University Convocation and the Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony. Both events will be held in the Veale Center, broadcast live in other campus venues, and webcast live for quests who are unable to travel to campus.

University Convocation: Each student who registers to participate in Commencement will receive two tickets for guests to attend University Convocation in the Veale Convocation Center. These guests will be able to remain in the Veale Center for the Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony, which happens immediately after University Convocation. No diplomas are presented during Convocation. Multiple <u>auxiliary viewing locations</u> will be available for guests without tickets. Convocation will be shown <u>via convocation live webcast</u> for guests who are not able to travel to campus.

Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony: Each student who registers for Commencement will also receive one Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony ticket - this guest will view Convocation at another nearby venue on campus and then join the other two guests in the Veale Convocation Center for the Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony. Multiple auxiliary viewing locations will be available for guests without tickets. The Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony will be shown via ceremony live webcast for guests who are not able to travel to campus.

**Extra Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony Tickets**: During the registration process, students can submit a request for up to two extra Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony tickets should they become available.

Submitting a request does not guarantee extra tickets. The availability of extra tickets is contingent on the number of participating students, which will be determined after Commencement registration closes. If extra Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony tickets are available, a random drawing will be used to allocate the extra tickets. Partial fulfillment of extra ticket requests is a possibility. Students will be notified by the Office of Undergraduate Studies of their ticket allocation after April 15.

Ticket Pick Up: Students may pick up their tickets from the Office of Undergraduate Studies during April 23 – May 4. ID required to pick up tickets.

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Graduating students: Grad Fair is March 21-22

All students earning bachelor's or master's degrees are encouraged to attend Grad Fair.

- Register for commencement
- Purchase cap and gown
- Ask commencement questions
- And more!

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
Thursday, March 22, 2018
10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Barnes & Noble University Bookstore

case.edu/commencement



think beyond the possible

#### Drop/Add Deadline for Second-half Courses is Friday, March 23

Second-half PHED and other courses for the spring semester may be added until 5 p.m. Friday, March 23 (in-person). You may continue to add these courses in SIS until11:59 p.m., but staff will not be available in the Registrar's Office or the Office of Undergraduate Studies to assist you.

#### March 30 is the Class Withdrawal Deadline

The last day to withdraw from a class is Friday, March 30. You can withdraw from a class through SIS if you are in good academic standing and will not fall below 12 credit-hours by withdrawing from a class. To withdraw from a class in SIS, go to the "other academic" drop-down menu from your student page and select "Enrollment: drop." This is the same process that you use for drop/add, but you will receive a message reminding you that you will receive a "W" grade.

Students may continue to withdraw from classes until 11:59 p.m. Keep in mind though that the University Registrar and Undergraduate Studies close at 5 p.m. Those who need assistance should stop by Undergraduate Studies before then.

If you are not in good standing, will fall below 12 credit-hours if you withdraw from a course, or want to talk to someone in the Office of Undergraduate Studies before withdrawing from a class, please stop by Sears Building 357. You can find your dean's walk-in hours <u>here</u>, or you can call 216.368.2928 to make an appointment.

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#### March 30 is the Pass/No Pass Deadline

If you plan to use the pass/no pass option for a class this semester, you must complete the P/NP ballot in SIS. To select P/NP, go to the "other academic" drop-down menu from your student page and select "Pass/No Pass Request." The deadline to apply for the P/NP option is Friday, March 30, at 11:59 p.m.

You may use P/NP for only one class other than those regularly graded P/NP, and you must remain enrolled in at least three credit-hours for an evaluative grade. If it is a course required for your major, minor, or SAGES requirement, you can use the P/NP option, but you will not be able to use that class to fulfill the requirement. You will need to take the class again for an evaluative grade or another applicable class to fulfill the requirement.

Students in a Weatherhead School of Management degree program may not use the P/NP option for any Weatherhead courses (ACCT, BAFI, BLAW, ENTP, LHRP, MGMT, MIDS, MKMR, OPMT, ORBH, OPRE, PLCY), either required or elective.

#### Off-Campus Study Requests Due April 1

Are you planning to take courses off campus this summer? To be eligible, you must be in good academic standing at the end of the semester (i.e. earned at least 12 credit-hours with a 2.000 or higher term GPA). To have the off-campus coursework reviewed for transfer credit, you must follow the procedures outlined on the <u>Off-Campus Study Request</u> form. The <u>list of academic representatives</u> will also be helpful for you to review. If you have questions, contact <u>your dean</u> in Undergraduate Studies or stop by during <u>walk-in hours</u>.

#### Have You Declared a Major?

Upperclass students are expected to declare a major before registering for classes for their fifth semester of enrollment. This means students who entered as first-year students in August 2016 or earlier must declare a major prior to registering for fall 2018 courses. Transfer students are expected to declare a major before registering for their third semester at CWRU. This means transfer students who entered in August 2017 or earlier must declare a major prior to registering for fall 2018 courses. A choice or change of major or minor is not recorded for any student until the declaration form has been completed and submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Studies

Beyond that point, students who have not declared a major will have a major declaration hold placed on their accounts until they have done so. Students may later change their majors should their academic interests change. If you have a major declaration hold but will have earned fewer than 60 credit-hours (including transfer, AP, IB, and proficiency credit) by the end of the semester, you may request that your dean in Undergraduate Studies lift the registration hold.

#### Seniors: Participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement

This is the last chance for first-year students and seniors to provide their feedback and be part of a national study. On March 21, students will receive the final reminder to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement. The survey is being given to undergraduates at schools across the country and asks students about their educational and interpersonal experiences. Results will help in evaluation of services and programs. The e-mail will come from Dean Jeffrey Wolcowitz with the subject line "Last chance to give CWRU your feedback." Questions about the survey can be directed to the Office of Institutional Research.

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#### Information About Summer 2018 Courses

Interested in taking courses this summer? Visit <u>summer.case.edu</u> for important dates, course offerings, and more. Course registration for undergraduates opens Monday, April 2.

#### National Fellowship and Scholarship Deadlines

Please review the opportunities listed on our <u>fellowships and scholarships webpage</u> and complete this <u>questionnaire</u> in order for Dean McCarthy to begin advising you. Your responses will allow for a more productive advising session. Following completion of the questionnaire, an appointment can be scheduled by calling the Office of Undergraduate Studies at 216.368.2928 or emailing <u>ugstudies@case.edu</u>.

Award	Eligibility	Deadline
CAS Experiential Learning Fellowships – Rocks and Traub	CAS Undergraduates	March 9
Society of Plastic Engineers' Scholarships	Undergraduate/Graduate Students	April 1
B.A. Rudolph: Undergraduate Public Service Scholarship	Undergraduates	April 11
Ohio EPA Scholarship	Seniors	April 15
Eckenfelder Scholarship	Juniors/Seniors	April 15
Phi Beta Kappa Student Research Grants	CAS Undergraduate/Graduate Students	April 16

If you are considering applying in the fall to any of the following opportunities, now is the time to connect with Dean McCarthy, the fellowships and scholarships advisor:

- Barry Goldwater Scholarship
- Beinecke Scholarship
- Boren Awards for International Study
- Churchill Scholarship
- Critical Language Scholarship
- Fulbright Program
- George J. Mitchell Scholarship
- Marshall Scholarships
- Rhodes Scholarships
- Schwarzman Scholars
- Udall Scholarship

#### Alexandra Piepho Learning and Life Scholarship

Alexandra Piepho, as a promising member of the class of 2016, balanced her passion for exploration and learning with a variety of enriching interests in the arts and sciences. Alexandra's parents, family, and friends created the Alexandra Piepho Learning and Life Scholarship to honor her legacy. This scholarship will be awarded at the Academic Awards Assembly April 27. Please complete the online application by March 12.

A qualified applicant will:

- exhibit a broad scope of learning interests through their coursework, activities, and extracurricular involvement;
- demonstrate their enthusiasm for experiential learning and life as evidenced by their personally stated interests and/or recommendations on their behalf;
- provide help and guidance to others which is demonstrated though their past and current volunteering with organizations;
- demonstrate their ability to accept others as evidenced by their personally stated interests and/or recommendations written on their behalf.

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#### Updates from International Student Services

#### Tax Preparation Services & Information Now Available

It's time to file your 2017 income taxes, and ISS can help make the process easier. All individuals in F and J status must file taxes, including spouses, young children, and even those who haven't earned any income.

Glacier Tax Prep (GTP) is a software program designed primarily for international students and other educational visa holders. It can help you prepare your U.S. federal income tax return and assist you in preparing Form 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ.

You may access GTP and begin preparing your federal return by visiting <u>myServices</u> and logging in with your CWRU network ID and password. The service is provided as a convenience to international students. Students who used GTP in 2016 received a refund of \$900.67 on average.

If GTP determines that you are required to file state taxes, you will have the opportunity to log in to Sprintax, another tax filing software, and (for a fee) prepare those state taxes. You are not required to use Sprintax to file state taxes; you can use GTP without using Sprintax. Remember, it is your responsibility to comply with the law and properly file all taxes.

It's a good idea to wait to access GTP until you have all of your necessary and relevant tax forms. This will ensure that you're providing the most accurate information about your income during the 2017 tax year. If you haven't received your W-2 from CWRU, contact Payroll at <a href="mailto:payroll@case.edu">payroll@case.edu</a>. If you were authorized to work for another employer, you should contact their payroll department.

The U.S. citizen codes in SIS prompt the generation of the 1098-T by Student Financial Services. The 1098-T is generated for U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents automatically. The 1098-T is not automatically generated for international students. The university is only required to provide the 1098-T to international students (nonresident aliens) upon their request per guidance from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). For more information regarding the 1098-T, please visit Student Financial Services.

If you are the recipient of a 1098-T, it's not likely that you're eligible to use GTP. GTP is intended for nonresident aliens, and if you're issued a 1098-T, it's possible that you've been in the U.S. long enough to be considered a resident alien for taxpurposes only. That means you're able to file your taxes more similarly to the way a U.S. citizen does and can utilize other tax preparation software.

1042–S forms will be prepared by mid-March and sent to students by Payroll. Please contact <u>Payroll</u> if you have questions about the issuance of your 1042–S. For more information, visit <u>Information on Filing Taxes</u>.

#### Traveling During Spring Break?

#### GOING ABROAD

If you plan to travel outside of the U.S. during the break, be sure to check your I-20 (if you are in F-1 status) or your DS-2019 (if you are in J-1 status) to see when your document was last signed. A travel signature, which is required for your reentry to the U.S., is valid for up to one year with two exceptions: 1) If you will be traveling to Canada, you should have a travel signature that is no more than six months old; 2) If you have applied for or are currently approved for post-completion OPT as an F-1 student, a travel signature is valid for only six months.

Please come to ISS for a travel signature during <u>walk-in hours</u>. You will need to complete and submit the Travel Signature Request form (available <u>online</u> and in-person). You can come in during walk-in hours or drop the form off to pick up at a later date. If you have any additional concerns about traveling, please contact ISS.

#### TRAVELING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

When traveling within the U.S., you may prefer to carry your state-issued identification, such as a state ID card or a driver's license. This is perfectly fine, however, it is essential that you have your passport and visa documents with you as well. In recent years, there has been heightened security not only at border crossings, but also bus and train terminals and airports throughout the U.S. International students may be stopped and

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#### Updates from International Student Services (cont.)

questioned randomly. Therefore, students should have their passport, visa documents (I-94 printout and properly signed SEVIS I-20 or DS-2019), state-issued ID, and CWRU ID card with them for all travel. A person without valid travel documents can be arrested, threatened with deportation, and taken into Department of Homeland Security custody.

#### TAKING A CRUISE

Before sailing off on vacation, be sure to refer to this <u>very important information</u>. There are many things to consider as an international student when it comes to taking a cruise!

#### International Student Success Series Topics

The Center for International Affairs helps to provide the tools for international student success on campus through a series of programs, workshops, meetings and events. This series is an extension of orientation programming and developed to help international students transition and better understand the social and academic culture at CaseWestern Reserve. Each part of the series is designed to enhance important life skills and incorporates knowledgeable trainers from across campus.

All events are free and open to the campus though some will require registration. Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunch. Sessions are Thursday, 12 – 1p.m. in Tomlinson Hall, Room 135.

March 15: Bystander Intervention Training – Green Dot and other interventions for violence prevention

March 29: Apartments and Landlords — Leases, apartment expectations, and how to search for a place to live.

April 12: Police and Safety on Campus – Meet a police officer and discuss safety tips and policing in the U.S.

#### Retrieve Content from Blackboard Before June 1

With the adoption of Canvas as the learning management system at Case Western Reserve University, the previous system, Blackboard, will be decommissioned June 1. After this date, individuals will no longer be able to access content from that system.

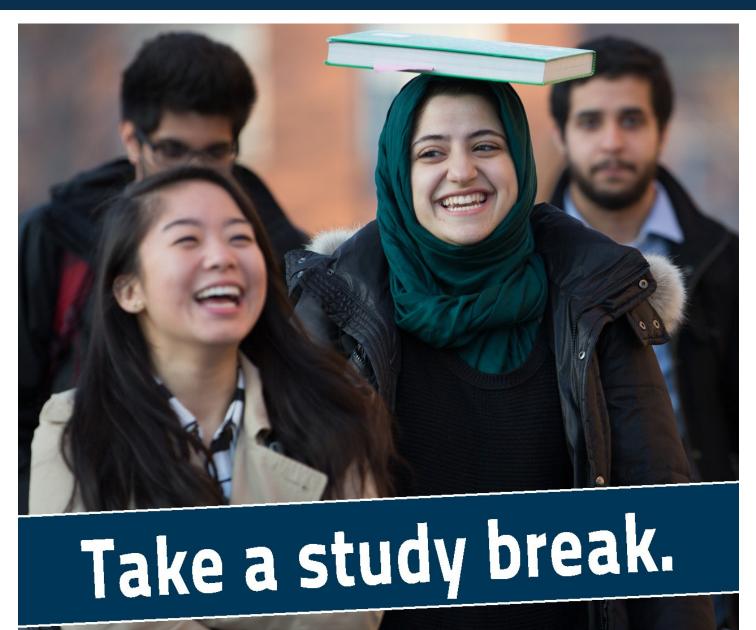
Teaching and Learning Technologies recommends that students retrieve their content submitted through Blackboard that they might need to use for portfolios, applications and future classes before June 1.

The following resources are available to help students locate and save their Blackboard work:

- Refer to the <u>University Technology</u> (<u>[U]Tech</u>) <u>website</u>.
- Contact the [U]Tech Service Desk at help@case.edu or 216.368.4357.
- Attend "Blackboard Blitz" training drop-in sessions Blackboard Blitz training will help students move data out of Blackboard. The Canvas team will help individuals locate and download data from Blackboard and save it on their computer for future use. Training sessions are 30 minutes long at various campus locations. Blackboard Blitz training drop-in sessions occur throughout the spring. Upcoming dates are:
  - Friday, March 9, 2 2:30 p.m., Bingham 204
  - Tuesday, March 20, 11 11:30 a.m., Mather House 02
  - Thursday, March 22, 1 1:30 p.m., White 322
  - Wednesday, March 28, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. at Yost 102

Students are not required to register for drop-in sessions. The full training calendar is available <u>here</u>. <u>See more information.</u>

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## **DEAN'S STUDY BREAK**

Tuesday, March 6 | 4 - 5 p.m. | Tinkham Veale

#### Food and drinks will be provided!

Study breaks are hosted by Dean Jeffrey Wolcowitz of Undergraduate Studies and are open to all undergraduate students. They are a great opportunity to chat informally with Dean Wolcowitz and fellow students and learn more about Undergraduate Studies. Students are encouraged to attend for any period of time during the event.

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## **SOURCE**

**Support of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors** 

**Deadline:** March 9th SUMMER http://bit.ly/2F984aA RESEARCH **FUNDING** SURES **SUMMER** UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN ENERGY & SUSTAINABLITITY **SOURCE AHSS ARTS, HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES** 

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## NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOPS

#### Which Opportunity is Right for You? Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 3:30 p.m., Tomlinson 135

Have you considered applying for a competitive national fellowship or scholarship but don't know where to start? This workshop will provide students with information on a variety of prestigious awards and aid them in determining the best opportunities to meet their interests.

### Writing Your Application Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 3:30 p.m., Bellflower102

The Writing Resource Center and the Office of Undergraduate Studies are co-hosting a writing workshop for students applying for fellowships and scholarships. Learn about the types of writing associated with these prestigious opportunities and how to craft your best work.

#### Developing a Plan

#### Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 3:30 p.m., Tomlinson 135

Fellowship and scholarship applications require time, effort, and devotion. Join the Office of Undergraduate Studies for this workshop that will give you the necessary tools for the organization and planning to ultimately lead to a competitive submission.

#### Selecting and Working with References Tuesday, March 20, at 3:30 p.m., Tomlinson 135

Asking for a letter of recommendation seems like a relatively simple task until you are confronted with who and how to ask. Learn how to best to select and support your reference writers through the development of a letter.

Please email Dean Amanda McCarthy in the Office of Undergraduate Studies at <u>aam83@case.edu</u> to RSVP for a workshop.



Office of Undergraduate Studies



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### The Office of Undergraduate Studies presents:





JUDGE KATHLEEN SUTULA Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas

Friday, March 23 12:45 - 2 p.m. Sears 356

Lunch will be provided. Those interested in attending should RSVP to Pre-Law Advisor Terri Mester at terri.mester@case.edu.



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## REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 25, 2018

Symposium and Poster Session



# SOURCE Info Session: ALL ABOUT FINDING RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

COME TO ONE OF THESE 50 MINUTE SESSIONS TO LEARN MORE!

- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 4PM, WICKENDEN 321
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 3:15 PM, SEARS LIBRARY 480
- MONDAY, MARCH 26, 3:15 PM, SEARS LIBRARY 480
- THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 4PM, SEARS LIBRARY 356
- MONDAY, APRIL 9, 3:15 PM, SEARS LIBRARY 480
- THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 4PM, SEARS LIBRARY 356
- MONDAY, APRIL 23, 3:15 PM, SEARS LIBRARY 480



## Start the semester off right—

## **Enroll in UNIV 100!**



UNIV 100: ESSential Academic Strategies is a non-credit, pass/no-pass interactive 5-week seminar that can help students enhance their time management and study skills.

Week 1	Time Management
Week 2	Note-taking and Efficient Reading
Week 3	Test-taking Strategies
Week 4	Understanding Learning Styles
Week 5	Fighting Procrastination and Student Suggested Topics

The seminar begins during weeks two (1/25) and ten (3/22).

Thursdays from 4:15-5:15 p.m. in Sears 480.

<u>Students can register through SIS.</u>

"The seminar was relaxed and involved a lot of talking and group work. The lack of pressure made it easier to look at what I did well and poorly in my school life."

"The sessions were informative and each one explored a new topic pertaining to time management."

"I learned what type of learner I am."

"THIS SEMINAR WAS AWESOME!"

"Learning how to take notes & tackle readings for different subjects—very helpful!"

"Very good atmosphere to promote the learning of learning."

Educational Services for Students (ESS) \* 470 Sears \* 216-368-5230 \* ess.case.edu \* essinfo@case.edu